

trade and collaboration in the setting up of certain industries including iron ore pelletisation. The proposals at this stage are of a general nature, and no final decision has yet been taken.

Recommendations of Study Group on Road Safety

*407. SHRI KASIM ALI ABID :
SHRI KHURSHED ALAM
KHAN :

SHRI JAGDISH JOSHI :

SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL
URF PIARE LALL TALIB :

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Standing Committee of Transport Development Council on Road Transport at its meeting held on 7th November, 1973 considered the recommendations of the study group on road safety and way-side amenities ;

(b) if so, what is the progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the group ; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the decisions taken on the recommendations of the group?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The majority of the recommendations of the two Study Groups concerns the State Governments and Union Territory Administration. The recommendations of these bodies, as endorsed by the Transport Development Council, have been forwarded to the State Governments and Union Administrations for implementation. The progress in this respect is being watched.

(c) A review of the progress in regard to the more important recommendations is proposed to be made at the next meeting of the Transport Development Council or its Standing Committees.

†Vocational Training for Women

*408. SHRI S. KUMARAN :
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA :
DR. Z. A. AHMAD :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised a project document to provide vocational training to women ;

(b) if so, what are the salient features thereof ;

(c) the steps being taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (c) With the assistance of Swedish International Development Authority, a feasibility study was carried out in 1975 by two international lady experts, to identify new trades/occupations for women. Based on their report, another ILO expert has finalised a Project Report which is now under the consideration of Government.

The Project envisages provision of training facilities in basic and advance skills in selected trades having significant employment potential like dress-making, needle work, garment knitting, hosiery, electronics and secretarial practices. Short-term specialised courses are also proposed to be organised for the upgrading and retraining in selected fields as considered necessary.

Indo-China Relations

*409. SHRI BIR CHANDRA DEB
BURMAN :
DR. Z. A. AHMAD :
SHRI PRAKASH VEER SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

†Transferred from the 17th March, 1976. (Previously numbered as Starred Question No. 210).

(a) whether there is any likelihood of having normal ties with China in the near future; and

(b) If so, what attempts have been made to normalise relations and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The re-establishment of normal ties with China is dependent on a suitable response from the latter to the various measures we have taken to normalize relations.

India's First Communications Satellite

*410. SHRI SALIL KUMAR GAN-
GULI :

SHRI SASANKASEKHAR SAN-
YAL :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries with which India has decided to collaborate in launching the first communications satellite; and

(b) what are the other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICA-
TIONS (SHRI S. D. SHARMA): (a) and (b) The whole question whether India could have a domestic satellite for meeting telecommunication and allied needs is under consideration.

Presence of French Warships in Indian Ocean

*411. SHRI SARDAR AMJAD ALI :
SHRI HARSH DEO MALA-
VIYA :

SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-
DARA MENON :

DR. V. B. SINGH :
SHRI KHYOMO LOTHIA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AF-
FAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that France has recently deployed warships equipped with anti-aircraft rockets and ship-to-ship missiles in the Indian Ocean;

(b) whether it is a fact that France had sent two sub-marines to the Indian Ocean earlier also;

(c) whether Government of India conveyed to the French Government a desire to keep the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace; and

(d) if so, what has been the reaction of the French Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AF-
FAIRS (SHRI Y. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (b) The Government have seen press reports to this effect.

(c) The consistent support that the Government of India have extended to the UN proposal for the declaration of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace is well-known to international community and therefore to the Government of France. However, the Govt. of India took advantage of the recent visit of the Prime Minister of France to India to restate its position on the subject.

(d) It may be recalled that France has not supported the UN resolutions on the declaration of Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. The Government of India are not aware of any change in France's position.

DTC bus services from Karol Bagh Telephone Exchange to Central Secretariat

*412. SHRI NATHI SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no DTC bus service from Karol Bagh Telephone Exchange/Pusa Road to Central Secretariat complex and that the people living in those areas have either to come to Karol Bagh Police Station or to Shankar Road to get a bus;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no DTC bus service between Railway Station to Central Secretariat and route No. 760 plying between Kirby Place to Railway